

**State of Wisconsin/Department of Transportation
RESEARCH PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING: December 31, 2002**

Project ID: 0092-01-09

Project Title: Fresh Water Mussel Study

Approved Starting Date (Contract Date): 6/29/2001

Estimated Completion Date: 6/30/2003

Primary Investigator: Ed Emmons, Department of Natural Resources

WisDOT Technical Contact: Gary Birch

Administrative Contact: Nina McLawhorn

Description: This research will consolidate published and unpublished information on the distribution and relative abundance of Wisconsin's mussels and establish a study design and sampling protocol for more effective tracking of freshwater mussel habitats statewide.

Project Cost: \$100,000

Expenditures for current quarter:

Total Expenditures to date: \$31,593.15

Percent Complete:

Progress This Quarter: (Includes project committee meetings, work plan status, contract status, significant progress, etc.)

The portion of the contract that calls for converting paper data into the digitized version of the Wisconsin Mussel Atlas is complete. DNR has sent a digital version of the data to WisDOT for inspection. Gary Birch of WisDOT is in the process of examining the data, and placing it within an electronic map environment.

An amendment to this contract was completed and submitted to hopefully extend the contract into the first quarter of fiscal year 2004. Amendment was for \$20,000.

Randy Piette (DNR) continued development of mussel inventory methods to be used for the survey. He tested both quantitative and qualitative sampling methods into the fall diving season. The qualitative mussel survey method will be used in water bodies for a rapid screening of water bodies in the future.

Work Next Quarter: (Includes project committee meetings, work plan status, contract status, significant progress, etc.)

The Mussel Atlas portion is complete. Randy Piette will continue developing mussel inventory methods. Randy will report results of sampling methods for the next quarterly report. UW-Stevens Point may review and make suggestions to Randy after he has had some opportunity to experiment with different methods.

Circumstances Affecting Progress/Budget:

Hopefully, project will be extended by one quarter.

Please insert or attach Gantt Chart.